

Family planning in Palestine

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Unmet Need for Family planning



Definition: currently married woman in reproductive age, wanting to use a contraception method to **prevent pregnancy or space child birth**, but not able to do so.....

- a. High unmet need for family planning (20%) PCBS 2010
- b. Deterioration from 12.4 % in 2006

Human rights issue

- a. West Bank (19.4%); highest in Hebron 25.5%, lowest in Bethlehem 12.7%.

- a. Gaza (18.90%); highest in Dier El Balah 26%, lowest in North Gaza 18.90%

- Why is this variation?? Service-related or culture-related

Family health survey



Unwanted pregnancy reported in 30% of previous pregnancy

Methodological issue about WANTED pregnancy

Unmet need for family planning not calculated for this group.....

Abortion case pattern. Gaza data from 2008. 2009, 2010 (sharp increase)

Determinants



- Availability of services
- Access to services
- Cultural aspects (knowledge about services, husband agreement, family support)
- Commodity availability
- Supply chain management
- Counseling and awareness about family planning

Counseling about family planning



- a. 52.7% received FP counseling during postnatal (PNC coverage is still at 38%)

- a. 55% received information on FP during antenatal visits

Where do we stand now?



- Improved supply at national level
- Harmonized service provision (MOH, UNRWA, NGOs)
- Adopted (and implemented) as part of essential component of services package
- On the way to improve supply chain management (ensuring availability of adequate stocks of commodities at central, district and peripheral levels)
- Reporting system for utilization, stock outs and needs forecast)
- Significant focus on family planning within the health promotion and counseling program

Unsolved agenda



- Full integration into primary healthcare\
- Method mix to match the right to choose\
- Quality of services \
- Husband involvement\
- Emergency contraception\
- Complete national ownership\